

California
Department of
Child Support
Services

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 1, 2007

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## GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS AUGUST 2007 AS "CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH"

### Encouraging Parents to "Get in the Picture" by supporting their children financially and emotionally

SACRAMENTO – Today, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger proclaimed August 2007 Child Support Awareness Month, serving as an annual reminder to parents to make sure that they provide the financial support necessary for their children.

"California is proud to have the Department of Child Support Services, local agencies and community partners working together to increase and ensure timely child support collections," stated Governor Schwarzenegger. "With their hard work and the support of all Californians, more children will have the opportunity to succeed."

Added Greta Wallace, Director of the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS), "Maximizing our ability to deliver quality child support services is one of our top priorities – at the state and local levels we are focused on helping children thrive."

Part of DCSS' Child Support Awareness Month celebration is the release of the August 2007 Child Support Awareness Month poster – provided to county child support agencies, welfare offices and the courts, as well as various community groups statewide. The August 2007 campaign also includes the release of radio public service announcements airing on Spanish-language and English-language AM and FM stations statewide, encouraging parents to "Get in the Picture" by supporting their children financially and emotionally.

Children have the right to be supported by both parents – financially, medically and emotionally. The child support program is committed to ensuring that California's children are given every opportunity to obtain these rights in a fair and consistent manner throughout the state. In 2006, the program collected \$2.2 billion and served more than two million children.

Child support program services are delivered through 52 local child support agencies that offer many services to parents free of charge, including providing assistance in locating a parent; establishing paternity; establishing, modifying and enforcing a court order for child support; and establishing, modifying and enforcing an order for health coverage.

Together with county child support agencies, DCSS will celebrate Child Support Awareness Month at a series of locally sponsored events and activities promoting the positive impacts of child support upon the lives of more than two million California children. For more information or to view DCSS' strategic plan, log on to <a href="http://www.childsup.ca.gov/">http://www.childsup.ca.gov/</a>.

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## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA



### PROCLAMATION

Our children are our future, and they are entitled to the financial support they need and deserve. Child support is a lifeline for almost two million youth in California and receiving it often can be the difference between a child thriving or merely surviving.

California's Child Support Program is using cutting-edge technology to give parents greater options and opportunities to support their children. Last year, more than \$2.2 billion in child support payments were collected, providing greater financial security for kids and their families. These crucial payments not only fulfill a legal responsibility, but they also reduce the need for public assistance and provide items needed for the child's everyday life, such as food, shelter and medical care.

Child Support Awareness Month serves as a yearly reminder for parents to make sure that they provide the financial support necessary for their kids. California is proud to have the Department of Child Support Services, local agencies and community partners working together to increase and ensure timely child support collections. With their hard work and the support of all Californians, more children will have the opportunity to succeed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim August 2007, as "Child Support Awareness Month" in California.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 24th day of July 2007.

Arnold Schwarzenegger GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

Attest:

Debya Bowen SECRETARY OF STATE

# Get in the picture!



kids need financial support from both parents

Child Support Awareness Month August 2007



# ¡Complete el Cuadro!



los niños necesitan apoyo financiero de ambos padres

Agosto 2007—El Mes de Hacer Conciencia del Apoyo Financiero Para los Niños

